Ripon College Bulletin

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The latest announcement from the War Department relative to military drill in the Colleges next year will be of interest to all our friends and is therefore added as a supplement to the Summer Bulletin. Ripon College already has her athletic director, Mr. Mc Crory, and ten students in training at Fort Sheridan as the first step in the establishment of an Army Training Camp here next year. Formal application has been made to the Government for such a camp, and the suggestions of the War Department are being followed in every particular.

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

June 29, 1918

From: THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY,

To: PRESIDENT.

Subject: *Military Training in Colleges.*

Supplementing the announcement of the War Department dated May 8, 1918, that military instruction will be provided beginning with the fall term, 1918, in all institutions of collegiate grade enrolling 100 or more able-bodied students and that opportunity will be offered to all students over eighteen to enlist in the Army as members of the Students' Army Training Corps, the following statement is made to explain more definitely the character of the plan:

1. General object.
2. Definition of institutions in which the system will be installed.
3. (a) Students' Army Training Corps; (b) Enlistment and enrollment; (c) Call to active duty; policy of the Government; (d) Discharges.
4. Nature and amount of training.
5. Corps of instructors.
6 Uniform and equipment.
7. Administration and inspection.
8. Relation of R. O. T. C. to the Students' Army Training Corps.

1 *General object* The purpose of this plan is to develop as a great military asset the large body of young men in the colleges. This will be accomp-

lished by providing efficient military instruction under the supervision of the War Department for students in all colleges enrolling the required minimum of students. In order to receive this instruction, all students over eighteen years of age must volunteer and enlist in the Army of the United States.

2. *Definition of institutions to which this system will apply.* The system will apply to all institutions of collegiate grade which enroll for the courses 100 or more able-bodied male students *over eighteen.* The intention is to extend the system of instruction for college students to the largest practicable extent in view of the available supply of officers and equipment.

3. (a) *Students' Army Training Corps;* (b) *Enlistment and enrollment;* (c) *call to active duty; policy of the Government;* (d) *Discharge.*

(a) *Students' Army Training Corps.* There will be created in the Army a Students' Army Training Corps. The training units to be organized under this plan will be designated, The Students' Army Training Corps units.

Training units will be organized in the colleges in the various branches of the service in accordance with the needs of the Army as determined by the War Department, taking into account the character of the institution. The great majority of the training units will be for instruction in the line branches of the service. Such units will be organized in all non-technical institutions. Most of the units will be infantry units; others will be field artillery, heavy artillery, and possibly one or more cavalry units. A limited number of units for training in the staff departments of the service will be organized in technical schools, e. g., medical training units will be organized in selected medical schools, engineering units in engineering schools, and a few units for other special branches of the service.

(b) *Enlistment and enrollment.* All able-bodied students in the colleges in which training units are organized will be encouraged to *enlist* if over the legal enlistment age of eighteen. Students under eighteen will be encouraged to *enroll* in the training units. Students neither enlisted nor enrolled will not be entitled to enter the training units or to receive the instruction. *The enlistment contract of all students over eighteen will constitute them members of the Army of the United States, and they will become thereby subject to active service at the call of the President.* The enlisted students will be on furlough status until called to the colors and will receive no pay or allowance except when attending summer training camp, in which case they will be entitled to transportation and rations as provided in Section 78, Bulletin 16, 1917, for members of the R. O. T. C. All enlistments will be in the grade of private.

(c) *Call to active duty; policy of the Government.* It will be the policy of the Government not to call members of The Students' Army Training Corps units to active duty until they reach the draft age, unless urgent military reasons compel an earlier call. A system will be devised whereby the military

instructor of the college will certify to the Adjutant General of the Army the names of those students who are members of The Students' Army Training Corps who have reached the draft age. Orders will then be issued calling such students to duty on the thirtieth of the following June. This will permit them to complete the college year in which they are then engaged. It is emphasized that the student body is not to be made a deferred or favored class under the Selective Service Act.

(d) *Discharges.* Provision will be made for discharge in appropriate cases —unfitness, misbehavior, dependent relatives, and the necessity to leave college for causes beyond the student's control. No such discharge will remove the student's liability to draft.

4. *Nature and amount of training.*

(a) The character of the training will depend upon the kind of training unit which is organized in the particular institution, whether infantry, cavalry, field artillery, engineers, signal corps, air service, heavy artillery, tank corps, ordnance, quartermaster or medical. Courses of instruction will be prepared appropriate to the various units.

The standard time to be allotted to military work will be in the case of all units ten hours per week during the college year, supplemented by six weeks of intensive training in a summer camp. The ten hours a week standard, however, will not involve the hours of outdoor work in drill. A feature of the system will be the giving of liberal credits for academic work in line with the military instruction, so as to hold the outdoor work to feasible limits In this connection due regard will be had to the character of the academic courses and the nature of the training unit.

In the case of training units in the line branches of the service the courses will usually provide for six hours per week of practical instruction, including drill and rifle practice and four hours of credits from academic studies of military value.

(b) The summer camp will be an important feature of the system. Summer camps for a period of six weeks each year will be provided for members of the training units. At these camps there will be an intensive and rigid course of instruction under experienced officers. Transportation to and from the camps and rations while at the camp will be furnished by the War Department.

(c) The above plan will provide (on the basis of 33 weeks for the academic year, and a six weeks' camp) approximately 650 hours of military work per annum. It is expected that this will qualify a considerable percentage of the students to enter officers' training camps on being called to the colors, and a large percentage of the remainder to serve as non-commissioned officers. The number to be certified for training as officers from any institution will not be based on an arbitrary percentage. It will depend on the quality of the men developed at the institution and the necessities of the service at the time.

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5. *The corps of instructors.* Officer instructors and non-commissioned officer instructors will be provided by the War Department when available. Officers returning from overseas and unfit for further field service will be utilized when available.

In order to supplement the instructors assigned by the War Department, and to enable the colleges to develop a force of assistant instructors, there will be held, beginning July 15, 1918, camps for instructors, to continue sixty days. The colleges will be invited to send a limited number of picked students and members of their faculties to these camps. These camps will be conducted with a view to teaching the attendants to give military instruction to students, and it is believed that satisfactory results can be obtained from an intensive sixty-day course. Details concerning these camps—location, cost, method of application, etc.—will be sent at an early date.

6 *Uniforms and equipment* The Government will supply the necessary uniforms, rifles and other equipment, so far as supplies are available.

7. *Administration and inspection.* The importance of effective inspection is recognized, and a staff of traveling officer-inspectors will be detailed to visit the institutions at frequent intervals.

8. *Relations of R. O. T. C. to the Students' Army Training Corps.* In all colleges having an R. O. T. C. unit, the already earned status and privileges of the students now enrolled therein will not be disturbed. Institutions now having recognized R. O. T. C. units may, if they so desire, establish in addition Students' Army Training Corps units.

The course of training will be uniform in all colleges, including those now having R. O. T. C. units, and uniform standards will govern the selection of students to attend officers' training camps. The general purpose is to provide a uniform system in all colleges, while not prejudicing in any way students who are already enrolled in the R. O. T. C.

9. Detailed regulations in pursuance of the above are in course of preparation, and will be sent to the colleges as soon as practicable.

By order of the Secretary of War.

H. P. McCain.

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